

**TOWN OF PERU
EMERGENCY SELECTBOARD MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2023**

Selectmen present: Gail Belyea, Arthur Clifford, Jason Dolloff, Patrick Houghton, Kathryn Lawrence. Notes taken by the chair at her request.

Others: Jim Belyea, Clint Bradbury, Joe Brissette, Dan Carrier, Jess Carrier, Flint Christie, Alicia Conn, Debbie Coudrain, Bruce Farrin, Brad Hutchings, Brett Provencher, Rick Vaughn.

Chair Gail Belyea motioned to open the meeting at 8:51 a.m., seconded by Arthur Clifford. The chair emphasized that the **only** topic to be discussed at this emergency meeting was the fire which consumed the Peru town garage, town trucks, and all other contents during the night of January 26-27, 2023. All in favor.

Gail moved to appoint selectman Arthur as the board's primary contact person for the media, since as a firefighter he has on-scene knowledge of the event. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.

Flint Christie, president of Kyes Insurance, joined us to assure the town he will get the process of insurance reimbursement started. The adjuster(s) will alert the town clerk as soon as possible with an arrival date for viewing the fire site.

Initial discussion centered on acquiring plow trucks for the road department, perhaps renting or borrowing for the short-term. Further discussions included:

- Dollar loss of garage and equipment is estimated at \$1.2-\$1.5 million.
- Looking for single-axle dump trucks set up for plowing and sanding.
- Recording/documenting all expenses during this time.
- Deductibles.
- Lost wages/unemployment.
- When the town gets trucks, where will they be maintained and parked.
- Town clerk will have phone line installed in the town office voting room, which will serve as temporary office space for the road commissioner.

Canton's selectboard chair Don Hutchins said he would reach out to the State of Maine regarding use of their trucks; called again to share that a one-ton truck is available.

Dixfield town manager Alicia Conn offered to have its road department plow Dolloff Street and the town office parking lot.

Vern Maxwell, Woodstock town manager, offered a 2007 Sterling for plowing.

At 9:55 a.m., Arthur moved, Jason seconded, to recess so that the selectboard could drive down to view the fire site as a group. All in favor.

Gail motioned, Katie seconded, to resume the meeting upon return to the town office at 11:08 a.m.

Fire chief/emergency management coordinator Dan Carrier called Oxford County Emergency Management, seeking any help available.

